

Appl No. 10/634,110
Amdt. Dated July 25, 2005
Reply to Office Action of 6/02/2005

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend paragraph 1, line 8, page 5, as follows:

Description of a Preferred Embodiment

Referring now to the drawings, the invention will be described in more detail. As is illustrated by Figure 1, a plurality of storage containers 40 ~~40~~ are shown in stacked alignment. Each of the storage containers includes a sensor device, designated generally as 42, for monitoring changes to the environment inside the storage container. The sensor device indicates the status of the storage container as being in a secured state or a breached state based on changes, or lack thereof, in the environmental conditions inside the storage container. When the storage container is closed and the sensor activated, it is presumably in a secured state with the environmental conditions remaining within a specific range accepted by the sensor device. When a change in the environmental conditions within the storage container occurs, any changes such as a change in light, heat, motion, pressure, or radiation, beyond the specified accepted range is registered by the sensor which then indicates a breached state, preferably using a visual indicator. As is discussed in further detail below, sensor device 42 also includes the ability to store electronic information about the contents within the storage container and information as to a breach of the storage container.

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Please amend paragraph 1, line 19, page 11, as follows:

Referring now to Figure 7, a flow chart is shown depicting the various changes in conditions that will switch visual indicator 48 from a green flashing light to a blue flashing light to signal a breach of the storage container. At position 70 the sensor device is activated and causes the green indicator light to flash indicating a secured condition, as depicted in step 72. The sensor device will continue to signal a green flashing indicator until a change in condition will switch the visual indicator to flashing blue lights. As depicted in step 74, a change in light would lead to flashing blue indicators representative of a breach of the storage container as depicted in step 76. Once a breach occurs, the date, time and type of breach is stored in the sensor device 80. Additionally, if the sensor device is connected to a GPS system, it would send a signal notifying authorities of the date, time and type of breach and location of the container. The sensor device will then continue to monitor for additional changes in condition, such as a change in radiation levels at step 82, a change in air pressure at step 84, or a change in temperature and motion at step 86. In each of steps 74, 82, 84 and 86 a change in condition will lead to a flashing blue visual indicator representative of a breached status for the storage container requiring the attention of an inspector or other authority personnel. As is clearly depicted by Figure 7, if no breach occurs the indicator will continue to flash green.

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Please amend paragraph 1, line 17, page 13, as follows:

Referring to Figure 9, in the preferred embodiment of the invention, the wireless handheld device 46 used by inspector 43 provides various options for sending and receiving information from sensor device 42. As depicted in step 110, the software for the wireless device is activated to interact with the sensor device. The software program includes a main menu 112 that allows the user to select from a variety of options. In the preferred embodiment, at step 114, the user may select to send text to the wireless device. In this instance, the wireless device will retrieve the stored text from memory at step 116 and transmit the stored text to the sensor device at step 118. At step 120 the user may select to send handwritten information designated by the term signature at step 120. In this case the user will input the information into the wireless device by either typing or writing through a user interface at step 122 and the software at step 124 will then transmit the information from the wireless device to the sensor device. Preferably at step 126, the user will have the ability to send image files depicting the contents of the storage container. Using this option, at step 128, the user will select an image file from information stored on the wireless device at step 130. The user may also wish to retrieve information stored on the sensor device by selecting the option to read the sensor device at step 132. The wireless device will then transmit a signal to retrieve information stored on the sensor device at step 134 and store the information carried on the sensor device onto the wireless device at step 136. At step 138, the user may select to view the information on the wireless device which will retrieve the information stored on the device at step 140 and display information about

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the container, the battery voltage, time, logs, text, signature information, and image files, and any breach information, as depicted by step 142.